



# The chicken gave it to me

GENRE	children's fiction
READING STRATEGIES	skimming; scanning; detailed reading
QUESTION FORM	questions requiring answers in complete sentences
STANDING TESTED	questions 2, 3, 4, 5 - deductive; questions 1, 6 - inferential; question 7 - evaluative

- 1 What made the book look as if a chicken had made it and written it?  
*The book was tiny and made of a bit of pecked farm sack. The edges of the cover were not cut with scissors but pecked by a beak. The writing was thin and scratchy.* (2 marks)
- 2 Explain exactly how Andrew must have been feeling when he repeated helplessly that a chicken had given the book to him.  
*He couldn't see how to convince Gemma. He knew it was impossible to believe and that he wouldn't believe it either, in her place. He wanted to convince her because she was his friend and he wanted to share the excitement of the little book with her. He felt miserable.* (2 marks)
- 3 What is the difference between strolling and strutting?  
*Strolling is walking slowly and casually. Strutting is walking in a stiff-legged, proud way.* (1 mark)
- 4 Find the following words in the passage. What other words or phrases could be used instead without changing the meaning?  
*a) ridiculous - silly, foolish*  
*b) ferocious - fierce, angry, dangerous and violent*  
*c) ignore - pay no attention to, take no notice of* (3 marks)
- 5 Explain clearly the special meaning of the following words.  
*a) to repeat - means to say something for a second time.*  
*b) to interrupt - means to break in when somebody else is talking.*  
*c) to hiss - means to speak in a loud, urgent whisper.* (3 marks)
- 6 Why did Gemma believe Andrew in the end? Explain what was convincing about the way Andrew told his story.  
*Andrew described what happened clearly. He insisted it was true and he didn't change his story. He was very serious. He pointed out that it was not something he would choose to happen to him. He seemed amazed himself at what had happened.* (2 marks)
- 7 What do you find out about what Gemma's personality was like from this passage?  
*Gemma was sensible and outspoken and said what she thought. She could be a bit bossy and pointed out mistakes when she spotted them. She was clever with words. Gemma must have been a good friend and fun to share things with if Andrew is so desperate to convince her.* (2 marks)